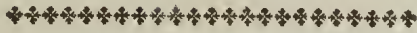


PARADISEA PARKINSONIANA.



CHARACTER GENERICUS.

Rostrum capistri plumis tomentosis tectum.

Pennæ (plerisque) hypochondriorum longiores.

Rectrices duæ superiores singulares denudatæ.

CHARACTER SPECIFICUS, &c.

PARADISEA fusca, rectricibus decompositis,
pennis duabus lunato-dilatatis.

Menura superba.

Lin. Trans. vol. 6. p. 207. pl. 22.

Le Parkinson.

Viellot & Dezray. Oiseaux Dorées.

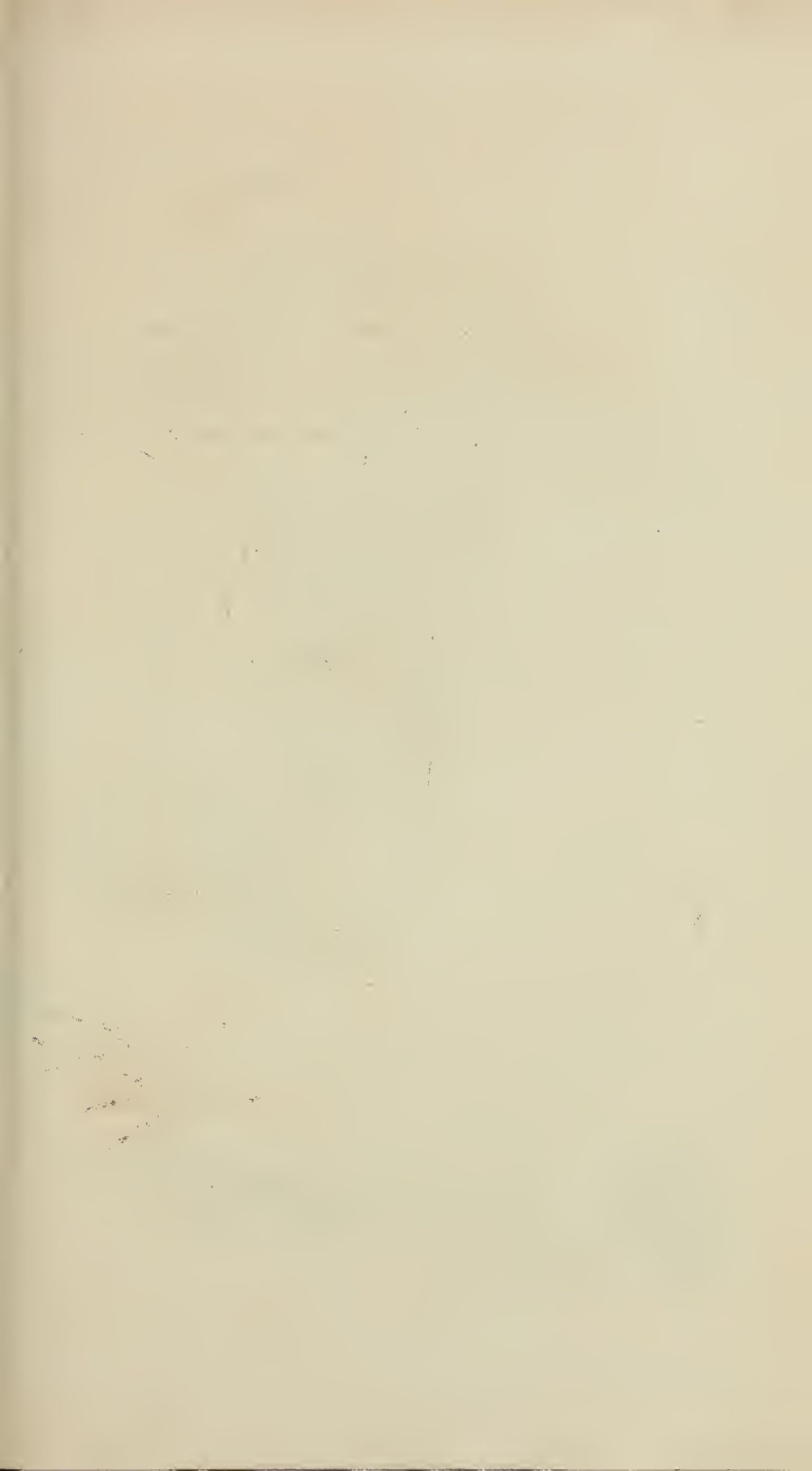
Paradiseam Parkinsonianam novæ Hollandiæ incolam insignit peculiaris quidam habitus et aspectus; nullus autem colorum splendor. Sordide infuscatur, interspersa hinc inde levior albedinis mistura. Crura pedesque maxima et validissima. Insolitum et rarissimum est, a pennarum caudæ longissimarum latere latiori abscissa videri quasi multa fragmenta; quod si penitus inspiciatur, monstrabitur oriri a fibris hac in parte tenuissimis, et adeo delicatulis, ut falsam vacui spatii imaginem præ se ferant. Cedit paululum magnitudine hæc species phasiano com-

K muni,

inuni, longa ab apice rostri ad extremitates pennarum, quas supra memoravimus, quatuor fere pedes.

De hac avi notandum est quod primo mane canere incipit, (vocem enim emittere dicitur suaviter canoram,) ascensoque gradatim rupestri quodam et eminenti loco, phasianorum nonnullorum more terram scalpit, caudam simul erigens, et certis intervallis aves omnes quas circum undique cantantes audiverit, imitatur; hoc modo se exercens per spatium quasi horarum duarum; quando in valles agrosque iterum descendit.

Elegantissimam hujus avis iconem nuperrime publicavit Dominus Viellot, in splendido suo opere de *Paradiseis*, &c. Avem nominavit ille *Paradisean Parkinson*. A filio nempe Domini Parkinsoni, quem penes est Museum Leverianum, figuram archetypam manu ingeniosi Domini Sydenhami Edwardi effictam receperat. Juxta illam effigiem fideliter delineata est hæc nostra similitudo.





THE
PARKINSONIAN PARADISE-BIRD.



GENERIC CHARACTER.

Bill covered at the base by downy feathers.
Hypochondrial Feathers (in most species elongated).
Middle tail feathers nearly naked or unwebbed.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER, &c.

Brown PARADISE-BIRD, with loose-webbed tail-feathers, the two exterior ones broad and lunated.

Superb Menura.

Lath. syn. append. 2. p. 271.

Le Parkinson.

Desray and Viellot. Oiseaux Doreés.

This highly singular bird is a native of Australasia or New Holland, and is more remarkable for the peculiarity of its aspect than for any beauty of colour, the general cast being a dusky brown, with

a few paler variegations. The legs and feet in this species are uncommonly large and strong, and the two principal or longest tail-feathers exhibit a very unusual appearance, seeming as if notched into several segments or divisions on the wider part of the web; which appearance, when accurately surveyed, is found to be merely owing to the extreme delicacy of the fibres, which is so great as to cause a deceptive transparency in that part of the feather. The size of this species is nearly equal to that of a common pheasant, and the length, from the tip of the beak to the ends of the long tail-feathers above-mentioned is nearly four feet.

The manners of this bird are singular. At the early part of the morning it begins singing, having (as is reported,) a very fine natural note; and, gradually ascending some rocky eminence, scratches up the ground in the manner of some of the Pheasant tribe, elevating its tail, and at intervals imitating the notes of every other bird within hearing; and after having continued this exercise for about two hours, again descends into the vallies or lower grounds.

A very beautiful figure of this bird has been lately published by Mons. Viellot, in his splendid work on the Paradiseæ, &c. under the name of *Le Parkinson*, in honour of John Parkinson, esq. of the Leverian Museum, through whose means Mons. Viellot received a most elegant drawing of the bird, by the
accurate

accurate hand of that ingenious artist Mr. Sydenham Edwards. From the above figure the present representation is faithfully copied.